

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 An optically anisotropic sheet comprises an optically
anisotropic layer, an orientation layer and a transparent
support in this order. The optically anisotropic layer is
formed from discotic liquid crystal molecules. The orien-
tation layer is subjected to rubbing treatment. The dis-
cotic liquid crystal molecules are aligned with the orien-
tation layer. An average inclined angle of discotic planes
10 of the discotic liquid crystal molecules is in the range of
50° to 90°. An average direction of optical axes of the
discotic liquid crystal molecules is essentially parallel
to a rubbing direction of the orientation layer.